

LIGHTING

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there, now there is path lighting, which is a significant difference," he said.

Polk Place has area lighting — high-wattage lights that cast a wider glow. Path lighting is lower wattage and doesn't have as wide of a radius.

Students also expressed concern on Tuesday's tour about the darkness of Coker Arboretum, which has no lighting in its interior.

Jim Ward, the plant records curator for the N.C. Botanical Gardens, said adding lighting inside the arboretum would be difficult because of the arboretum's complex root systems. He said it also has the potential to be more dangerous.

"Any lighting in there would result in pools of darkness because of the vegetation," Ward said.

He said people on the tour suggested lighting the President's Walk, which runs through the middle of the arboretum, and the wisteria arbor path, which runs alongside Cameron Avenue.

But he said better lighting does not necessarily ensure safety.

"The most effective means of safety for students concerning the arboretum is to just not walk through it after dark," Ward said.

Citing safety fears, student government gave \$80,000 to install lighting in off-campus neighborhoods, including McCauley Street and Rosemary Street. The plans call for low-wattage lights similar to those in McCorkle Place.

"Any lighting in there would result in pools of darkness because of the vegetation."

JIM WARD, N.C. BOTANICAL GARDENS PLANT RECORDS CURATOR, ON THE ARBORETUM

Kumar Neppalli, engineering services manager, said those lights are considered decorative and are comparable to those found in Meadowmont Village.

"This kind of light will be suitable for pedestrian use," Neppalli said.

Lights on McCauley will be installed in four to six weeks, and lights will be installed on Rosemary in the next three to four months.

Randy Young, spokesman for the Department of Public Safety, said the lighting tours generally are designed to look at acute problems with lighting and safety.

Young said the campus personal safety committee will meet in November to make recommendations about the lighting issues.

Young and Ward both said regardless of what new plans come out for lighting, student safety is their top priority.

"There are lots of places on campus that represent a high risk," Young said.

"It's important for students to walk in groups, take the bus when possible and use good judgment when going places after dark."

Contact the University Editor at uodesk@unc.edu.

PAC

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for the PAC's executive committee, which makes decisions about campaign giving.

"We've got a bunch of old folks; we need some young blood," Fulton said.

Created in 2002, CHE generally takes positions that are in sync with those of the UNC system. But that has not always been the case, and critics say the group gives UNC-CH an unfair advantage in the legisla-

ture over other state universities. Several UNC-system Board of Governors members have said that so long as the PAC supports the system's agenda, they do not see it as a problem.

N.C. State University is the only other UNC-system school with a PAC, called the University Development Coalition. It has given \$100,500 to state legislators this election.

N.C. State's PAC also is trying to grow, but it has a long way to go before reaching the upper echelon

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PAUL FULTON, UNC-CH TRUSTEE ON THE CITIZENS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PAC

of state political action committees. The N.C. Realtors PAC has given \$522,500 in contributions to state legislators and some local government candidates. The N.C. Advocates for Justice PAC, the trial lawyers' lobbying group, gave \$605,500, mostly to legislators. Fulton said it will be tough to

catch up with those PACs. But by continuing CHE's success, and by recruiting young new members, Fulton is setting the stage for the group's long-term prosperity.

"It's an ongoing thing," he said.

Contact the Projects Editors at dthprojects@gmail.com.

TRAFFIC

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Transportation is already conducting a complete system review of traffic signals in Chapel Hill, expected to be completed in the next few weeks.

The review includes an evaluation of signal timing and traffic flow, which could contribute to accidents like Hughes', Jordan said.

He added that his department will also look into how Hughes' death could have been prevented as part of a standard post fatality investigation.

As he walked across South Columbia on Wednesday, resident Tim Ross said the intersection's traffic signals are what put pedestrians in danger.

"Right here," he said. "I've just about been hit myself."

James Willie Orr, an eight-year Chapel Hill Transit driver who was behind the wheel of the NS-route bus that struck Hughes, is on unpaid administrative leave, said Stephen Spade, director of Chapel Hill Transit.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

INNOVATION

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"Everything that we want to do is likely to take longer than we thought it was going to six months ago," Thorp said.

University officials had hoped to have the center approved before the rest of the plans for Carolina North, which will include the UNC School of Law, office space and housing.

Construction of the center will force the closure of Horace Williams Airport, which serves medical airplanes and personal use. This has been the source of much controversy as the University

looks for a new site. Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc., based in California, will lease the land from the University and build and maintain the center. The company has national and international experience with incubators like the Innovation Center.

Bruce Runberg, assistant vice chancellor for facility planning and construction, said Alexandria had other concerns that couldn't be sorted out before Monday's meeting.

"They were uncomfortable with some of the verbiage in the special-use permit," Runberg said. "After trying to decide in the eleventh hour, we couldn't reach an agree-

ment and decided to ask the council to wait."

Alexandria could not be reached for comment.

Runberg said that the delay is "just part of the process" of getting the details in order, and that he hopes it will not cause further setbacks. He said UNC still hopes to begin construction next March.

"The economy is faltering," Runberg said. "So hopefully we can keep moving the project forward."

Projects Co-Editor Lindsey Naylor contributed reporting. Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

OBAMA

FROM PAGE 1

"It's going to be pretty close," said Genee Smith, a UNC graduate student who attended the event. "I think he will win the presidency, but I'm not sure about North Carolina."

Some said young voters could make or break Obama's chances.

"I think that young people are going to turn the tide," Chapel Hill resident Max Crohn said. "It's the most exciting election I've been

through, and I've been through a lot in my lifetime."

Both candidates have had to work harder in North Carolina than their predecessors, Guillory said.

"Four years ago, the candidates didn't fight over North Carolina because they both understood early on in the general election that the state was going to stay Republican in electoral votes," he said.

"What's different this year is they're having to fight over it, because the Obama people found

a way to make a fight."

The campaign's key job now is to keep the momentum alive for just a few more days.

"Our job is to get him there," said Michelle Obama at the Rocky Mount rally. "Let me tell you something — the only way Barack Obama does not become president is if we don't vote."

Staff Writer Dioni Wise contributed reporting. Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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Carolina Sports Menu

THURSDAY, OCT. 30
WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. Florida State at 7 PM

Free Bojangle's to first 150 students!
Chance to win an iPod Touch!
Halloween goodie bags for students!

SATURDAY, NOV. 1
MEN'S SOCCER
vs. Wake Forest at 7 PM

Free t-shirts to first 100 students!
Chance to win 1 of 2 iPod Nanos!

SUNDAY, NOV. 2
WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Miami
at 1 PM

Free Crocs the first 100 students!

Halloween festivities all day at Rams Head and Top of Lenoir - TOMORROW!

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